

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 04168 112015Z

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /098 W

----- 064763

R 111528Z SEP 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1936

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UN CI IS SF

SUBJ: 7TH SPECIAL SESSION: CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

1. SUMMARY: CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MET 10 SEPTEMBER TO CONSIDER CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. ACTING WITHOUT DEBATE AND ON HELPFUL BASIS OF A MEMORANDUM OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, THE COMMITTEE APPROVED CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED BY ALL DELEGATIONS, AND RECOMMENDED THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVE THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT TO THIS EFFECT.

2. DETAILS. WITH LEGAL COUNSEL SUY TEMPORARILY IN THE CHAIR, THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE FOR THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION MET ON 10 SEPTEMBER. AMBASSADORS BENNETT AND SHERER REPRESENTED THE US. SUY OPENED THE MEETING BY REFERRING TO THE PLENARY'S DECISION THAT THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION SHOULD CONSIST OF THE SAME 9 MEMBERS AS AT THE 29TH SESSION (US, BELGIUM, COSTA RICA, VENEZUELA, SENEGAL, TANZANIA, USSR, CHINA, PHILIPPINES). HE ACCORDINGLY PROPOSED THAT PHILIPPINES SHOULD SERVE AS CHAIRMAN, AS AT THE LAST SESSION. THIS WAS AGREED AND PHILIPPINE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE REYES TOOK

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PAGE 02 USUN N 04168 112015Z

THE CHAIR.

3. DRAWING ON A SCENARIO PREPARED BY SUY'S OFFICE, REYES NOTED A MEMORANDUM OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE VARIOUS CREDENTIALS SITUATIONS. THE MEMORANDUM LISTED EACH COUNTRY NAME UNDER ONE OF THE FOLLOWING THREE CATEGORIES: (A) CREDENTIALS ISSUED BY HEAD OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT OR BY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THIS LIST INCLUDING CHILE; (B) APPOINTMENT BY CABLE FROM FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER; AND (C) APPOINTMENT BY NOTE FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OR PERMANENT MISSION CONCERNED WHERE THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE HAS STANDING FULL POWERS TO REPRESENT HIS GOVERNMENT IN ANY UN BODY OR WILL BE RECEIVING THE SAME, THIS LIST INCLUDING ISRAEL. (AS THE RESULT OF CAREFUL WORK, EARLIER REPORTED NOTAL, THE MEMORANDUM CORRECTLY MADE NO RPT NO MENTION OF CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBER STATES NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE SPECIAL SESSION, NAMELY MALDIVES AND SOUTH AFRICA. THUS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COUNTRIES NAMED IN THE MEMORANDUM IS 136, NOT THE FULL UN MEMBERSHIP OF 138.)

4. REYES PROPOSED THAT THE COMMITTEE DECIDE TO ACCEPT CREDENTIALS, WHETHER IN CATEGORIES (A), (B) OR (C) SUBJECT TO RECEIPT OF STANDING FULL POWERS FROM CATEGORY (C) DELGATIONS , THIS WAS AGREED WITHOUT OBJECTION.

5. SENEGAL (AMBASSADOR FALL) COMMENTED THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MEMORANDUM SHOULD BE AMPLIFIED TO TAKE NOTE OF NON-PARTICIPATION OF THE MALDIVES AND SOUTH AFRICA, ALSO AGREED WITHOUT OBJECTION.

6 REYES PROPOSED THE COMMITTEE AGREE TO RECOMMEND THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACCEPT THE CREDENTIALS OF ALL DELEGATIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE SESSION, WHICH WAS AGREED WITHOUT DISCUSSION. HE ALSO OBTAINED AGREEMENT TO HIS PROPOSAL THAT THE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THAT THE PLENARY ADOPT A RESOLUTION READING:

"THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

"APPROVES THE REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE."

7. COMMENT: THE MEETING WAS A MODEL OF EFFICIENCY AND ABSENCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 USUN N 04168 112015Z

OF CONTROVERSY. WE HAD HEARD RUMORS THAT SOME IN THE AFRICAN GROUP WANTED TO HAVE THE CREDENTAIALS COMMITTEE REFER APPROVINGLY TO THE BOUTEFLIKA RULING SUSPENDING SOUTH AFRICAN PARTICIPATION IN THE 29TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUT THIS DID NOT HAPPEN. OTHERS MAY HAVE ARGUED THAT RAISING THE PROCEDURALLY IRRELEVANT SOUTH AFRICAN ISSUE WOULD DESTROY THE POSSIBILITY OF SPECIAL SESSION AGREEMENT ON ITS PROPER BUSINESS OF DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION. IN ANY EVENT, OTHER THAN THE SENEGALESE

REQUEST THAT SOUTH AFIRCAN NON-PARTICIPATION BE NOTED, NOTHING
WAS SAID ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA. NOR WAS COMMENT MADE ON CHILEAN,
ISRAELI OR ANY OTHER CREDENTIALS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, COMMITTEES, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975USUNN04168
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750315-0911
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750960/aaaacbag.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 7TH SPECIAL SESSION: CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, CI, IS, SF, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006